



Antelope Valley Illegal Dumping Task Force

County of Los Angeles
Fire Department, Fire Station No. 129
42110 6th Street West, Lancaster, CA 93534

Regular Meeting Summary of December 4, 2019

Attendees:

County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors

Donna Termeer, Supervisor Kathryn Barger's Office, Antelope Valley Field Office
Charles Bostwick, Supervisor Kathryn Barger's Office, Antelope Valley Field Office

County of Los Angeles Departments

Adriana Ornelas, LA County Public Works, Environmental Programs Division
Terri Alex, LA County Public Works, Environmental Programs Division
Tiffany Caldwell, Department of Regional Planning
Jackson Piper, Department of Regional Planning
Karen Tandler, LA County District Attorney's Office, Code Enforcement
Ariel Verayo, LA County Agricultural Commissioner Weights and Measures
Edgar Chavarria, LA County Sheriff Department

State and other Local Municipalities

David Jones, City of Lancaster
Absent, No Alternate, City of Palmdale

Town Councils and other local Organizations

Erika Schwerdt, I Heart Lake LA
Shirley Harriman, Lake Los Angeles News
Barbara Lods, Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District
Josh Mann, Waste Management, Inc.
Desiree Tainatongo, Tarzana Treatment Centers
Stephen Updyke, Tarzana Treatment Centers

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – Adriana Ornelas

Approval of October 2, 2019, meeting minutes – Donna Termeer

Donna Termeer, Chairperson motioned to approve the minutes from October 2, 2019. Donna requested a few updates on the minutes. Tiffany Caldwell, Treasurer of the AVIDTF Board recused herself as she was not in attendance at the October 2, 2019 Task Force meeting. Karen Tandler, LA County District Attorney's Office, Code Enforcement was unable to review the meeting minutes thus recused herself from

voting as well. Since there was no quorum for this specific motion, approval of meeting minutes was tabled until the February 5, 2020 Task Force meeting.

Budget Withdrawal Request for funds for Scales for DA Investigators – Karen Tandler

Karen Tandler, LA County District Attorney's Office requested to remove the formerly approved \$45,000 funding for Scales for the DA Investigators for the following reasons, 1) using scales is exclusive 2) reporting to chain of command has not been reported outside of Department and are trying to find alternative funding. Chairperson moved to remove \$45,000 funding for Scales for the DA Investigators and return funds to the existing Task Force Budget balance. Tiffany Caldwell, Treasurer of the AVIDTF Board approved the motion. Adriana Ornelas, Secretary of the AVIDTF Board seconded the motion. Karen Tandler recused herself from voting. Motion passed.

Budget Withdrawal Request for funds for Mattress Recycling Event Banners – Adriana Ornelas

Adriana Ornelas, Secretary of the AVIDTF Board requested to remove the item from the agenda as funding will be needed for events banners and used in CY2020.

Report on Task Force Budget, Expenditures and CY2020 Spending Plan – Donna Termeer

Donna Termeer, Chairperson requested to discuss the CY2020 spending plan. Discussion resulted in the following spending plan approved by the Antelope Valley Illegal Dumping Task Force (AVIDTF). The spending plan identifies key priority tasks and expenditures that the AVIDTF anticipates undertaking to enhance illegal dumping prevention programs in the unincorporated county areas of the Antelope Valley.

- Allocate \$35,000 funds for future cleanup activities using roll-off bins to assist residents impacted by instances of illegal dumping that causes a nuisance.
- Purchase an additional \$20,000 worth of half-ton vouchers (approximately 650 half-ton vouchers) for removal of specific items to add to the existing 2019 \$44,604 allocation for half-ton vouchers to be used in a program to allow residents of the Antelope Valley to dispose of materials at no cost at two Waste Management Inc. Landfills.
- Allocate \$7,000 for a variety of illegal dumping grants provided to schools, non-profit organizations, and other community-based organizations for the purpose of illegal dumping education.
- Allocate \$10,000 for proper recycling of approximately 5,000 tires collected at various volunteer community cleanup events.

- Allocate \$25,000 to support community cleanup efforts or community education outreach directed at combating illegal dumping.
- Allocate \$5,181 for the purpose of sending AVIDTF representatives to conferences, workshops, community events for education and networking purposes (fees to include registration, lodging, meals and transportation) to combat illegal dumping and support achieving the AVIDTF mission.

Donna moved to approve a grand total of \$102,181.00 spending plan for calendar year 2020 that identifies key priority tasks and expenditures that the AVIDTF anticipates undertaking to enhance illegal dumping prevention programs in the unincorporated county areas of the Antelope Valley. Karen Tandler, LA County District Attorney's Office approved the motion and Tiffany Caldwell, Treasurer of the AVIDTF Board seconded the motion. Adriana Ornelas, Secretary of the AVIDTF Board recused herself from voting. Motion passed.

Update on Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant – Ariel Verayo

Ariel Verayo, LA County Agricultural Commissioner Weights and Measures (ACWM), Weed Abatement Unit updated on the Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant. ACWM has been awarded \$130,000.00 by CalRecycle for the cleanup of four zones in the Roosevelt Village area of unincorporated LA County. There is an estimated 80-100 tons of debris to cleanup.

Request for Trash Vouchers or Roll Off Bins for Resident – Jackson Piper

Jackson Piper, Department of Regional Planning requested trash vouchers or roll off bins for a resident in need of funding assistance to cleanup illegal dumping. After discussing the property, Donna Termeer, Chairperson moved to fund a 40 yard roll off bin. David Jones, City of Lancaster approved the funding and Ariel Verayo, ACWM seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Report on Mattress Recycling Program – Adriana Ornelas

Adriana Ornelas, Secretary of the AVIDTF Board reported on LA County Public Works' Mattress Recycling Program. During calendar year 2019, there have been 20 mattress collection events resulting in 1,589 unit of mattresses collected and recycled compared to calendar year 2018 with 8 mattress collection events resulting in 1,420 unit of mattresses collected and recycled. The goal for 2020 is coordinating with the Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) to evaluate expanding the number of permanent mattress collection/drop off locations throughout unincorporated LA County as well as inform residents of resources available to them.

Summary on Take Back Your Drugs Event – Stephen Updyke

Stephen Updyke, Tarzana Treatment Centers presented the results on the Drug Take Back event held Saturday, October 26, 2019 at the Kaiser Permanente facility on Avenue L at the Butterfly Building from 10am – 2pm to drop off prescription drugs. And the DEA 360 Train-the-Trainer event held on October 16 and 17 at the Antelope Valley Hospital Community Resource Center where they were able to reach 150 community members with this important information, including attendees from the Los Angeles area.

At the National Drug Take Back Day, 28 boxes of medication were collected, a weight of approximately 300 lbs. The amount was approximately double the quantity collected at the National Drug Take Back Day in April. These 2 take back days, were the first time in several years that this event was held in the Antelope Valley area.

Inquiry on 32nd Annual AV Fair & Event Center Home Show, March 28 & 29, 2020, in Antelope Valley, Inquiry on National Zero Waste Conference, March 18 & 19, 2020 at UC Berkeley, Inquiry on California Resource Recovery Association Conference, Aug 16-25, 2020 in Burlingame & Annual Membership, Inquiry on 2020 Antelope Valley Fair, Aug 16-25, 2020 at AV Fairgrounds – Adriana Ornelas

Adriana Ornelas, Secretary of the AVIDTF Board inquired on a few conferences and local events for calendar year 2020. The conferences would provide needed information on combating illegal dumping plus the opportunity to network with industry members. Local events would provide public information on the mission of the Task Force.

There was discussion on the length of event days for the 2020 Antelope Valley Fair, August 16-25 and felt the number of hours and days may not be fully staffed to accommodate the entire event. The Task Force will not volunteer at this event.

The National Zero Waste Conference, March 18 & 19, 2020 at UC Berkeley would provide cost of event only but will not be attended.

The website for the California Resource Recovery Association Conference, Aug 16-25, 2020 had no new updates on the conference thus the inquiry would be tabled for a future date. Mr. David Jones, City of Lancaster attends the event every year and plans to attend in 2020.

There was discussion on the 32nd Annual AV Fair & Event Center Home Show where the 5th District Supervisor's Office – Antelope Valley Field Office would inquire with the AV Fair to discuss a waiver for participation at the event as well as represent during the weekend event. The event would be staffed by volunteers to provide public information on reporting illegal dumping, information about the mission of the Task Force and hand

out a survey to better assist the community by educating and prevention programs to decrease illegal dumping.

Adriana requested funding up to \$750 for a space during the two day event. Chairperson stated they would follow up with the organizer for the possibility to waive the fee. Chairperson moved to approve up to \$750 for a space during the 32nd Annual AV Fair & Event Center Home Show should the fee not get waived. Tiffany Caldwell, Treasurer of the AVIDTF Board approved the motion and Karen Tandler, LA County District Attorney's Office seconded the motion. Motion passed.

LA County Sheriff Department update on Violators of illegal dumping – Edgar Chavarria

Edgar Chavarria, LA County Sheriff Department provided an update on violators of illegal dumping in the Antelope Valley area. There were 16 citations (2 commercial waste, 13 residential waste and 1 construction waste) resulting in 4 arrests and 10 office conferences which included Deputy District Attorney, Karen Tandler. The office conferences were a warning in lieu of a criminal case. Edgar provided an additional email to report violators of illegal dumping is cpbdumping@lasd.org Enforcement agencies are working together to combat violators of illegal dumping.

Edgar requested a camera for the purpose of photo taking illegal dumped items as evidence. Since the camera was not an agenda item, the motion to vote cannot be approved. The request for a camera will be placed on the February 5, 2020 Task Force meeting agenda.

Public Comment

I Heart Lake LA, Tour de Trash Update – Erika Schwerdt

Erika Schwerdt, iHeart Lake LA presented on the Desert Tour and Picnic held on October 29, 2019. The purpose of the picnic was to strategize, plan and challenge communities, schools, local churches to support SB409. Representatives from Senator Wilk, Assemblyman Lackey, Supervisor Kathryn Barger and the Sheriff's Department were in attendance. The group assembled at Lake Los Angeles Park and toured the most affected illegally dumped areas such as 180th Street East from East Avenue N at 180th to 162nd Street East, north through the desert to the bus center for Challenger Middle School. Illegally dumped items included thousands of marijuana grow boxes, tires, furniture, construction material, wood, carpet and tons of household trash. The tour ended at the Antelope Valley Indian Museum where South Bay Counseling Center (SBCC) provided lunch. Presentation of certificates of appreciation were awarded to Senator Wilk, Assemblyman Lackey, Waste Management, Supervisor Kathryn Barger, the Antelope Valley Illegal Dumping Task Force, Sheriff's Department, District

Attorney's Office, Antelope Valley Indian Museum and Early Steps for School Success
Wilsona School District.

The tour raised community awareness, legislative awareness, and showing the affected areas impacts the need to pass SB409. A student, Ryan Runquist spoke about the impact of illegal dumping

Erika stated supporting SB409 is a start, but the community cannot just keep cleaning up illegal dumping.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Electronic Waste (E-Waste) Event – Shirley Harriman

Shirley Harriman, Lake LA News requested an additional HHW and E-Waste Event as one held each February is not enough. Shirley also requested assistance with funding event flyers. Since the request was not on the agenda the Task Force cannot move to fund the request. Since the event and Task Force meeting are both scheduled in February 2020, it was suggested Shirley pay the fees then request a reimbursement of up to \$200.

There was discussion about adding a Free Dump Day at Lancaster Landfill. Josh Mann of Waste Management (WM) stated the cost of the event is around \$35,000. Tiffany Caldwell, Treasurer of the AVIDTF Board asked if Waste Management would be willing to fund the event. Josh stated he would inquire with the District Manager, Nicole Stetson. Jackson Piper, Department of Regional Planning also inquired about the possibility of using WM garbage trucks for collection of debris within heavy illegally dumped "hot zones". Josh stated there are policy and guidelines to follow. The items will be discussed further at the February 5, 2020 meeting.

Meeting adjourned.